

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

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PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year)

11 MAY 2005

Applicant's or agent's file reference

P15512PC00

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

PCT/IB04/03071

International filing date (day/month/year)

21 September 2004 (21.09.2004)

Priority date (day/month/year)

22 September 2003 (22.09.2003)

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

IPC(7): A63F 13/00 and US Cl.: 463/16,42

Applicant

WTERLEAF LIMITED

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☒ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/ US

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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/IB04/03071

Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).

2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

a. type of material

☐ a sequence listing

☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing

b. format of material

☐ in written format

☐ in computer readable form

c. time of filing/furnishing

☐ contained in international application as filed.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.

3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
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Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

1. The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non-obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of:

☐ the entire international application

☒ claims Nos. 5-17,21 and 27-42

because:

☐ the said international application, or the said claim Nos. _____ relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (*specify*):

☒ the description, claims or drawings (*indicate particular elements below*) or said claims Nos. 5-17,21 and 27-42 are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (*specify*):

Improper multiple dependent claims under PCT Rule 6.4(a)

☐ the claims, or said claims Nos. _____ are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.

☐ no international search report has been established for said claims Nos. _____

☐ the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing does not comply with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions in that:

the written form

☐

has not been furnished

☐

does not comply with the standard

the computer readable form

☐

has not been furnished

☐

does not comply with the standard

☐ the tables related to the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing, if in computer readable form only, do not comply with the technical requirements provided for in Annex C-bis of the Administrative Instructions.

☐ See Supplemental Box for further details.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
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International application No.
PCT/IB04/03071

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43 bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>NONE</u>	YES
	Claims <u>1-4, 18-20, 22, and 23-26</u>	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims <u>NONE</u>	YES
	Claims <u>1-4, 18-20, 22, and 23-26</u>	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-4, 18-20, 22, and 23-26</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO

2. Citations and explanations:

Claims 1-4, 18-20, 22 and 23-26 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by Heaton et al. (US 2003/0109310).

Heaton et al discloses the following:

A display means switchable between an overview mode and a detailed mode, in which the examiner interprets the player actively switching between the different screens to be an equivalent to the display means switchable (figure 2), the game data relating to any game that is displayed in the detailed mode being a superset of corresponding game data displayed for the same game in the overview mode, and the available games for which game data is displayed in the overview mode being a subset of the available games for which game data is displayed in the detailed mode (figures 3-14) as recited in claims 1 and 23.

A categorization facility operable to categories the number of available casino game playable by the player into a number of different game categories (figure 8 and paragraph 73) as recited in claims 2 and 24.

The casino game is categorisable into a plurality of different game categories (figure 8 and paragraph 73) as recited in claims 3 and 25.

The game data displayed by the display means is sorted by game category (figures 3-14) as recited in claims 4 and 26.

The display means displays a plurality of categories of game as tabbed categories (figures 2-14) as recited in claim 18.

The predetermined attributes of all games in any tabbed category is displayed by the display means in tabular columns in a scrollable window (figures 2-14) as recited in claim 19.

All the attributes of any particular game are displayed in an adjacent non-scrollable window when any attribute in the scrollable window is brought into focus by means of a pointing device (figures 2-14 and column 4, lines 4-29) as recited in claim 20.

The display means is instructable to also display the game categories and the casino games in each category by means of a conventional fly-out menu display as recited in claim 22.